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11 May 1967

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director of Special Activities

SUBJECT: Operational Readiness Exercise for
Detachment G

1. This memorandum contains a recommendation for the approval of the Director of Special Activities. Such recommendation is contained in paragraph 2.

2. Subject to your approval, D/O/OSA will initiate the actions required to exercise the Edwards Detachment in an austere deployment/operational mission exercise. The purpose of this exercise is primarily for training of the new Edwards staff officers in the conduct of Detachment G type operational missions. Its secondary purpose is to exercise the whole of the detachment in a quick move type deployment.

3. The basic plan of this exercise would be formulated along the following lines:

a. The detachment would be alerted for the mission on D-3.

b. A forward detachment would be deployed to a USAF base inside the U.S. on D-1 (using the HQS airlift).

c. The U-2 would deploy to the forward base on D Day with all systems checked out prior to leaving Edwards AFB. The U-2 would be turned around with a minimum of ground time (2 hours) and launched on a simulated ops mission. Upon completion of the simulated ops mission, the U-2 would recover at Edwards AFB.

d. Upon notification that the U-2 was recovered at Edwards, the forward party would redeploy to Edwards aboard the HQS airlift.

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GROUP 1

Excluded from automatic
downgrading and
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4. Upon completion of this exercise, the Edwards Detachment should be current in all aspects of:

- a. Quick-reaction deployments.
- b. Minimum operational mission support requirements.
- c. Overall capability to conduct operational missions.

5. It is not proposed that this exercise be sprung upon the Edwards Detachment personnel at the last minute. Rather, it is proposed that HQS closely co-ordinate this exercise with the Detachment prior to its being conducted.

6. Subsequent to D/SA approval, it will take approximately 3 weeks before this exercise could be undertaken. This time is required for co-ordination with USAF (for a deployment base), preparing the operations plan and order, and co-ordination with Detachment G on the details of the exercise.

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Deputy for Operations, OSA

The recommendation contained in paragraph 2 is approved:

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Director of Special Activities

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SAS/O/OSA, [redacted] (11 May 67)

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